

DESCRIPTIONS OF TWO NEW SPECIES OF *CURIS* AND ONE NEW SPECIES OF
STIGMODERA (BUPRESTIDAE).

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(Three Text-figures.)

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Synopsis.

Descriptions are given of two new species of *Curis* (*C. adamsi* and *C. zecki*) from Central Queensland, and of one species of *Stigmodera* (*Stig. zecki*) from Stanthorpe district, Southern Queensland.

CURIS ADAMSI, n. sp.

Elongate, rather flat, especially the prothorax.

Head bright green with fiery reflections, clypeus brilliant green. Pronotum purple-blue on disc area with narrow medial vitta varicolorous, green being the dominant shade, side margins a fiery coppery colour. Elytra dark bluish, with the base, lower part of suture from past middle to 4 mm. from apex and mesosternal side bright metallic green showing fiery coppery green reflections before their junction with the darker ground colour. Legs and antennae dark metallic blue. Underside: thoracic sternum fiery opalescent red, abdominal sternites purple.

Head, fairly deeply impressed between the eyes. *Pronotum* much depressed, apex nearly straight, strongly bulging at the middle, base very irregularly sinuate, posterior angles acute and slightly produced, sides unusually wide behind middle; disc with a wide depression terminated by a large basal fovea; and two shallow lateral depressions finely punctate, the punctation more apparent at the brightly illuminated sides. *Scutellum* dark blue, subcircular, hardly depressed in centre. *Elytra* notably depressed, narrower at shoulder than the broad prothorax, almost parallel till past middle, widening slightly before the apical convergence; apices separately and neatly rounded. The hind margins strongly serrated, the elytra noticeably shorter than the abdomen. Four costae are clearly seen on each elytron, the intervals coarsely and irregularly punctate, the surface of the elytra being decidedly rugose. *Underside* finely and closely punctate, with a sparse white pubescence. *Dimensions*: 16 to 18 by 5 to 6 mm.

Habitat: Edungalba, Central Queensland (E. E. Adams).

A strikingly beautiful species of which four examples kindly sent to me by Mr. E. Adams were examined. It is clearly distinct from previously described *Curis*, the nearest to it being *Curis aurifera* L. and G. and *Curis olivacea* Carter. It differs from both (1) by the almost total absence of any bright coloration on the discal line of its pronotum and on its basal pronotal fovea; (2) by the greater length, depth and width of this central pronotal depression; (3) by the colour pattern of its suture; (4) by its more largely exposed pygidium. From *Curis olivacea* it, moreover, differs by the coarser texture of its elytra.

Type in Coll. Adams; one paratype each to the Australian Museum, Sydney, and the author's collection.

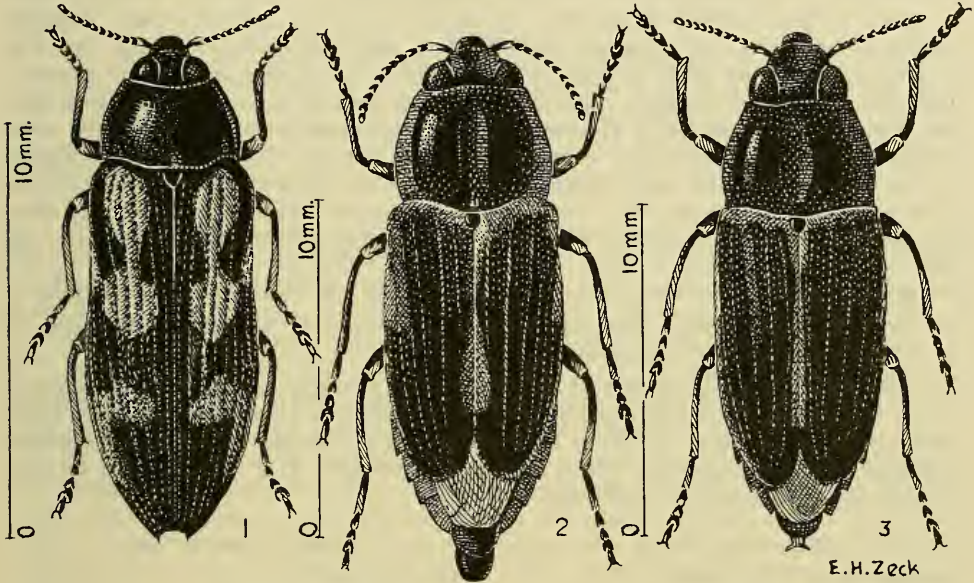
CURIS ZECKI, n. sp.

Oblong-ovate, somewhat attenuated at apex.

Head dark purplish blue, suffused with red gleams between the eyes; pronotum purplish blue with red reflections over the whole surface, but more so in the deep fovea at base; legs, antennae and underside dark metallic blue. Elytra purplish blue, the base, suture and sides bright green with golden red luminous radiations at their junction with the darker ground colour, this sutural fluorescence slightly interrupted

just past the base, widening a little past middle and coming to an end before the apex. Underside dark violet blue.

Head widely but shallowly impressed between the eyes, closely punctate. *Pronotum* apex and base bisinuate, the former strongly produced at middle, anterior angles acute, posterior sharply produced; disc with medial sulcus almost throughout, terminating with a deep and wide fovea at middle near base; finely and regularly punctate. *Scutellum* roundish, glossy, impunctate. *Elytra* wider than prothorax, shorter than body, slightly enlarged at shoulders, subparallel to past middle, thence tapering to apex; apices widely and separately rounded, margins neatly denticulate on apical part, disc irregularly punctate with three smooth costae, a considerable area of pygidium



exposed. *Underside* finely punctate, with a short cinereous pubescence. Dimensions: 15 × 5 mm.

Habitat: Edungalba, Central Queensland (E. E. Adams).

Type in Coll. Adams. One paratype each to the Australian Museum, Sydney, and to Mr. Zeck's and the author's collections.

This fine and clearly distinct species was discovered by Mr. E. Adams, an excellent and active entomologist from Central Queensland. Six examples are before me for examination. While showing some similarity to *Curis yalgoensis* Carter, it differs from it in (1) slightly smaller size, (2) colour of pronotum and elytra which is more florid in *yalgoensis*, (3) wider and deeper depression near base of pronotum, (4) different width of sutural fiery coloration, (5) wider apex, (6) pygidium more largely exposed.

In happy memory of a 40 years' sincere friendship I have given Emil Zeck's name to this rare insect.

STIGMODERA ZECKI, n. sp.

Ovata forma, paulum ad apices attenuata. Capite thoraceque aereo-viridibus, nitidis et punctulatis; elytris bronzeo-nigris, nitendibus, circum suturam majore aereis; maculis ternis flavis, apicis marginibus externis splendide sanguineis, punctato-striatis, pedibus viridi-aeneis; corpus subtus viridi-aeneum, dense albo pubescens.

Ovate, slightly attenuated behind.

Head fairly bright bronzy green; legs metallic bluish, antennae green; pronotum green with coppery gleams; elytra glossy dark blue with greenish reflections tinged

with bronze in the sutural area, with pale yellow markings as follows: female with two small roundish spots near the base almost above the shoulders, two slightly larger squarish ante-median ones situated behind the former, neither of these spots extending to the sides, a very small lateral one on the exterior margin situated about one-third of the entire length of the elytra from their base between the two previous spots and a straight anteapical fascia extending to the sides, but interrupted at suture and produced backwards along the margins down to within two mm. from the apex, this latero-produced part brightly sanguineous. With the male, the two roundish spots near the base are replaced by an oblique vitta produced downwards to meet and include the two medial spots.

Head excavated between the eyes, very closely punctate. *Pronotum* almost straight in front, strongly bisinuate at base, all angles acute, the posterior ones strongly produced, sides arcuately enlarged from apex to base, disc without medial line but showing a small basal fovea in front of the scutellum; fairly deep impressions at sides. *Scutellum* subcordate, centrally impressed. *Elytra* sharply widened behind shoulders and also past middle, fully attenuate behind, striate-punctate, the intervals more strongly raised on apical half, rounded and only minutely punctured; apex widely lunate, each elytron with wide oblique lunation and bispinose, the external spine more prominent, the sutural minute. *Underside* bronzy green, sternum with coppery tint, abdomen finely punctate, clothed with recumbent cinereous hair. Dimensions: $13 \times 4\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

Habitat: Stanthorpe district, Southern Queensland (A. Gemmell and E. Sutton).

Type in the Australian Museum, Sydney. Paratypes in E. Zeck, A. Gemmell, E. Sutton and the author's collections.

This pretty Buprest belongs to the interesting *producta* group which is confined to the eastern States of Australia, although the habitat of *Stigmodera producta* itself when described by Edw. Saunders 90 years ago was inaccurately given as Western Australia. Five examples are before me for examination. It is closely allied to *Stig. delta* Thomson, but differs as follows:

<i>Stig. delta</i> Thoms.	<i>Stig. zecki</i> , n. sp.
Average size: 14×5 mm.	$13 \times 4\frac{1}{2}$ mm.
Form more elongate.	Form more rotund.
Colour duller, less nitid.	More glossy, more glittering.
Pattern: The yellow colour of the basal vitta of the elytra nearly always reaches the margins.	It never does reach them, neither with males nor females.
Thin and smooth pronotal median line clearly visible.	Absence of pronotal median line.
Interstices more raised.	Interstices less prominent, surface of elytra smoother.
Marginal yellow stripe between the second and third leg wider and longer.	Marginal stripe thinner and shorter, almost invisible in some examples.
Sides greatly attenuated to the apex which terminates with minute oblique lunation.	Sides widely lunate with much longer external spine.

It may be mentioned that the yellow preapical fasciae and the dark blue preapical patches of *S. delta* and *S. zecki* are very different in shape and colour, and the backwards extension of the sanguineous margin also shows dissimilarities in width and length between these two species. Also that the ornamental design and coloration of the elytra of *S. zecki* is an almost exact replica of that of the dark variant of *S. delectabilis* Hope found in the Illawarra Coastal Range of N.S.W.

As a mark of appreciation of Mr. Emil Zeck's most valuable contribution to Australian entomology, it gives me great pleasure to name this new species after him.